

first and second connector bodies threadedly connected to the first and second compression barrels, respectively; and

a first compression seal positioned between the first compression barrel and the first connector body, and a second compression seal positioned between the second compression barrel and the second connector body, wherein the at least one optic fiber from the surface cable assembly is inserted into the first compression barrel and the at least one optic fiber from the motor lead cable is inserted into the second compression barrel to form a butt splice when the first and second connector bodies are connected to each other and to the first and second compression barrels, respectively.

Comments

In the Office Action dated December 2, 2005, the Examiner required restriction to one of two groups: (1) claims 1-16 and 22-25 or (2) claims 17-21. Applicant elected Group 1 (claims 1-16 and 22-25). The Response to Restriction Requirement mailed December 14, 2005, incorrectly identified the withdrawn claims as claims 17-25. The Examiner has correctly identified the withdrawn claims as only claims 17-21. All of the remaining claims were considered and addressed by the Examiner in the current Office Action.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuo, et al. (Matsuo) (JP 59-000582). Claims 1, 2, 7, 8 and 11 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Smith (WO 00/57540). Claims 1-4, 7, 8 and 11 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 6,167,965 to Bearden, et al. (Bearden). Claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 22-25 have been rejected as being obvious in view of a number of patents.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-6 and has amended claims 7, 12 and 22. Claims 7, 12 and 22 now include a specific limitation directed to a plug on the end of a cable which is received in a receptacle defined on the electric submersible motor. Insertion of the plug into the receptacle connects the electrical conductors and the optic fiber in the cable with the optic fiber in the electric submersible motor. None of Matsuo, Smith or Bearden discloses a cable with a plug thereon and a motor with a receptacle so that the optical connection can be made at the same time as the electrical connection simply by plugging the plug into the receptacle. This allows for easy and convenient connecting and disconnecting when necessary. Such an arrangement is not shown in any of the art cited by the Examiner. Because none of Matsuo, Smith or Bearden discloses such limitations, claims 7, 12 and 22 as amended should be allowed. New claim 26 is original claim 14 written in independent form and as such new claim 26, along with claims 15 and 16 which depend therefrom should likewise be allowed.

Summary

Accordingly, and for the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration along with the allowance of 7-12, 15, 16 and 22-26.

Respectfully submitted,



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